

August 15-16,
2002

Newfoundland and Labrador Teachers' Association

Executive Notes

Your Provincial Executive Council met on **August 15 and 16** in Corner Brook. This issue of Executive Notes is intended to provide you with a summary of major decisions and discussions that occurred at this meeting.

For further information on any of these issues please contact any member of Provincial Executive or the staff person as indicated.

Association Priorities

Provincial Executive discussed Association Priorities for 2002-03 during a session facilitated by Noreen O'Haire, Director of Professional Development for the Canadian Teachers' Federation. The session involved identifying priorities, reviewing past practices, and discussing the issues that are expected to predominate activities for the coming school year.

The priorities for this school year have been identified as: Quality of Teacher Work Life; Membership Involvement; Communications/Public Relations; Teacher Accountability/Assessment/Professionalism/Certification. Executive will complete an action plan on these priorities at the September 27-28 meeting.

For further information contact Winston Carter, President, or Edward Hancock, Executive Director.

Group Insurance Update

An update on Group Insurance was presented by Sean Noah, Group Insurance Chairperson 2001-03 and Don Ash, Administrative Officer, Benefits and Economic Services Division on group insurance plan changes in premiums and renewal period. All insured members were mailed a memorandum in early August detailing changes for this year.

For further information contact Sean Noah, Chair, Group Insurance Committee or Don Ash, Benefits and Economic Services Division.

Labrador Benefits Negotiations

Labrador Benefits Negotiations resumed on July 16-18 in St. John's with representatives from CUPE, NAPE, NLNU and NLTA meeting with Treasury Board and employer group representatives from Labrador. NLTA is represented by Sheila Park of Forteau and Lloyd Hobbs, Assistant Executive Director. During these meetings there were three sets

of proposal exchanges by each side which followed the initial exchange of opening packages of May 22-23.

Both sides are scheduled to meet on August 27-29 when a response is expected from the employer group.

For further information contact Winston Carter, President, or Lloyd Hobbs, Assistant Executive Director.

Accountability in Education

A workshop session entitled "Accountability in Education" was presented by Noreen O'Haire, Director of Professional Development with the Canadian Teachers' Federation. The session included examining the term "accountability" and initiating the development of an alternate model. The session also included examining the existing framework, setting and meeting goals, having defined roles and responsibilities, identifying characteristics that describe accountability, and credible measurement techniques and methods.

For further information contact Winston Carter, President, or Edward Hancock, Executive Director.

Business from Standing Committees

TABLE OFFICERS

- Vice-President Fred Douglas will be appointed as NLTA's Director on the CTF Board of Directors for 2002-03.
- NLTA will endorse the efforts of MUN Student Union to establish a more equitable fee structure for the experience components of programs at MUN.
- EAP Coordinator Claudette Coombs will be the NLTA designate to serve as a member of the Department of Health's Provincial Wellness Advisory Committee.

For further information contact Winston Carter, President, or Edward Hancock, Executive Director.

Other Business

Appointments for the Group Insurance Trustees for the year 2002-03 are as follows: Sean Noah (Chairperson), Linda Baillet, Bill Day, Cynthia Fizzard, Paul Matthews, Tina Ryan, and Art Windsor.

For more information contact Winston Carter, President.

Branch Contact Assignments: 2002-2003

Winston Carter	All Branches *
Dana Burrige	Aurora, Belle Mer, Bremco, Deer Lake, Humber
Diane Curtis	Ingornachoix, Long Range,

	Taylor's Brook, Table Mountain
Fred Douglas	Fogo Island, Ganova, Hamilton Sound, Notre Dame, St. Brendan's, Trinity-Deadman's Bay
Kevin Foley	Churchill Falls, Coastal Labrador South, Labrador West, Lake Melville, Northern Light, Nutak Labradorimi
Wayne Lee	Appalachia, Burgeo, Port aux Basques, Rameaux
Paul Matthews	Bell Island, Marconi, St. John's Centre, Waterford Valley
Edward Moore	Clarenbridge, Landfall, Placentia, Trinity, T.B.
Elizabeth Murphy	Burin-Marystown, Granforline, Rushoon-Terrenceville
Ted Murphy	Bay de Verde/Lower Trinity South, Bay Roberts, Carbonear, Upper Trinity South
Sean Noah	Baie Verte Peninsula, Bay d'Espoir, Belleoram-Wreck Cove, Exploits Valley, Green Bay, Harton, Seagaulher
Fred Wood	Conception Bay Centre, Conception Bay South, St. Mary's Bay, Southern Shore

* The President (and, in his absence, the Vice-President) will also be alternates for visitation to any branch if the scheduled contact person is unavailable.

For further information contact Winston Carter, President, or Edward Hancock, Executive Director.

Summer EI Benefits for Replacement Teachers

Over the past few years, the NLTA has provided legal assistance to quite a number of teachers for EI appeals on the issue of summer benefits for replacement teachers who had accepted teaching contracts for the subsequent school year. The Employment Insurance Commission's initial decisions on eligibility and appeals to the Board of Referees and Umpire levels did not resolve the issue. The appeals that were heard resulted in inconsistent outcomes in cases that are, for the most part, based on very

similar facts.

The NLTA, along with representatives from all provincial teachers' associations, is involved in efforts being made by the Canadian Teachers' Federation to develop a proposal to take to Human Resources and Development Canada to lobby for changes to policy and/or regulation that would provide a more fair and consistent approach to these types of cases.

The September/October 2002 issue of The Bulletin will contain further information regarding EI Benefits for Replacement Teachers.

For further information contact Stefanie Tuff in the Benefits and Economic Services Division or Lloyd Hobbs, Assistant Executive Director.

Professional Development Alliance

In May 2000 a report of the Ministerial Panel on Educational Delivery in the Classroom recommended that the Department of Education, school boards and the NLTA establish a Professional Development Alliance under a consortium model. The goals of an Alliance will include the development of a shared annual professional development agenda, a new model of professional institutes for teachers, alternate approaches to professional development and a system of recognizing participation in professional development activities. In an effort to build consensus around the work of the Alliance and to seek input on future action, a provincial symposium, Building a Professional Learning Community, will take place on October 2-4, 2002. NLTA will be represented at this Symposium.

For further information contact Winston Carter, President, or Edward Hancock, Executive Director.



Report of the 2002 Provincial Negotiating Team

The report of the 2002 Provincial Negotiating Team was presented to Provincial Executive. It outlined and discussed development in the last round of bargaining from the initial development of the opening package to the new agreement. The negotiating team offered 17 suggestions/recommendations for consideration on general and specific issues in future rounds.

For further information contact Fred Douglas, Chairperson, 2002 Provincial Negotiating Team, or Edward Hancock, Executive Director.

NEXT MEETING



The next meeting of Provincial Executive is scheduled for **September 27 and 28, 2002** in St. John's.

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